

Analyzing Cultural Reactions to Disaster



Project Title	Analyzing Cultural Reactions to Disaster
Project Summary	The Smithsonian Cultural Rescue Initiative is seeking interns interested in participating in its research project to develop disaster response plans for intangible cultural heritage.
Country	United States
Country/Region of Focus	Global

Project Description

The Smithsonian Cultural Rescue Initiative (SCRI) works to protect cultural heritage threatened or impacted by disasters and to help U.S. and international communities preserve their identities and history. SCRI projects include cultural rescue work in Haiti, Syria, Iraq, Egypt, Mali, Nepal, and the U.S., as well as disaster training for heritage colleagues, first responders, and military personnel around the world.

Interns will aggregate, analyze, and categorize case studies of cultural reactions to the onslaught of disaster. The result of this project will be a data resource for future research. This effort is critical to better understanding what practices, representations, expressions, knowledge, and skills communities value in the aftermath of a major disaster and to develop effective outreach efforts that support these values.

Required Skills or Interests

Skill(s)
Analytical writing
Data analysis
Research

Additional Information

Interns will work remotely to collect and analyze the ways that communities respond to disaster to develop a

dataset of best practices to effectively support disaster recovery.

Interns will gain: 1) skills in research and data acquisition; 2) knowledge in how to analyze and interpret valued intangible cultural resources; 3) experience in the field of disaster studies.

Desired backgrounds include but are not limited to: anthropology, cultural studies, ethnomusicology, psychology, religious studies, sociology, and performance studies.

Language Requirements

None